

The Woman's Page of The Times-Dispatch

The Impromptu Guest

First of all, let me begin by saying that an impromptu guest is not the friend that you are really intimate with and expect to drop in when you say, "Come to tea some time." You do not mind your own friends dropping in and having "pat luck" with you. You are awfully glad that they come and you make a little joke about the cold tea and crackers that you spread before him. Probably he is sorry he came, but then he laughs, too, and doesn't drop in so casually the next time. At heart, every one of us like to be made company of. We like to know that the best china is on the table and the ice cream and raspberries were ordered for our especial delight.

But we stir from the impromptu guest, by which you mean the man, woman or child that you have met once or twice and have said with your best manner that they must come in and break break with you some day. Let me tell you a little once upon a time. It was an awfully hot afternoon and the two girls that I know of had been away down town and they knew that the evening would be in a stew because they were late for supper, and they were mighty tired just as they crossed the open space in front of their home, the girl with the brown hair clutched the arm of the light-haired one who keeps house.

"There is a man on our porch, and I know he has come to support" she signed wearily.

"I know. It is that man that I told to come to supper some time last night," groaned the other, "and there are only four eggs in the house and there are exactly four of us to eat them, not counting the guest."

It was a tragic occasion. Four eggs with a healthy man come to dinner that openly asserts that he only eats two meals a day, and those two are breakfast and supper. There he is, seated on your porch for supper, and only four eggs! Couldn't you keep ever it? Such stirring of half a bottle of milk into these eggs, and such a sacrifice of the next morning's breakfast had to be made to the dish, and after all he was a vegetarian man and would not sup on the sacrificial bacon! In summer time there is always a man or two here to give order to the ice box, so probably the evening was saved. But the misery of the moment is a wound that runs in your face. Perseverently in your soul you vow to keep a jar of marmalade on top of the ice all of the time and cans of sardines on the pantry shelf. Nine times out of ten the same thing will happen over again.

There once was a new married person that had five delightful maid-servants upon her and two small chickens. Canned soup in the pantry and a box of peaches for the next day's dessert filled in the gaps, but it was nothing short of cruel to the poor little poultry. The men laughed a lot and said how funny it was that the chickens wouldn't go around, but there was murder justifiable in the heart of their hostess.

Now in a big family it is an entire different thing. They have to have half a lamb and a bushel of potatoes to go around, and one or two more never make a difference, but I do believe the greatest modern tragedy for two and the smiling guest who was two and the smiling guest who was not expected.

The woman at the head of the table holds firmly on to the top of the dish and says, "Have another potato, Mr. ——" "No more, thank you, Mrs. X ——" "Brave woman. There was no sign or sight of a potato inside of that dish!"

—BREN T. WITT.

Brocade Gowns.
The rage for brocade, which only a few years ago were looked upon as early Victorian and only at for electric downers, is stronger than ever in London just now. At the last court at Buckingham palace about three women out of five wore brocade.

One of the most beautiful gowns was worn by an American—Lady St. Albans, a sister of the Hon. Mrs. Cecil Bingham. The gown was of white and silver brocade. The skirt was supplemented with panniers of magnificent old lace arranged in a flounce over the hips, the lace being drawn across the front. The two hands crossed over almost at the feet and followed the hem, and were finally looped up under the long pointed train. The latter, which was of green moire velvet, was supported from the shoulder to the waist by a pretty ribbon of diamonds in a tower design.

A very striking gown was worn by the Marchioness of Tweeddale. It was of black charmeuse, the skirt being cut away in a V to the knee to reveal a petticoat of soft white satin, which was wrapped over in the center. The black charmeuse was bordered all around with a wide band of gold fillet lace, while the train was veiled with an overture of emerald green chiffon. At the hem with scrolls of crystals and milk-white beads. A panel of the same embroidery fell in front just above the petticoat, where the chiffon overture was draped up in a square to show the gold lace which outlined the black charmeuse.

A very becoming white and silver brocade gown was worn by Mrs. Miller. It was trimmed with real mil-lane lace and the court train was of pale yellow chiffon trimmed with silver cord, lace, and tassels.

Lady Althorpe, a recent bride, wore a rather daring gown of pale pink and white. The skirt was being draped with a cash of mauve satin at the back falling from under the drapery in soft folds. The bodice was trimmed with silver lace and embroidery from one shoulder right across the draped charmeuse in mauve, pale blue, and white diamonds. The train was of blue and silver English brocade in an ivy-leaf design, and was lined with silver tissue.

Family Wash a Specialty.

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ACCIDENTS AND SIMPLE REMEDIES FOR SUCH

Vacation time is at hand, when mothers will take their children off to the country, seashore or mountains, where in all probability they will not be within reach of a doctor when accidents happen. In any case, during the summer months there seems to be a greater danger of accidents when children are out-of-doors, running about in play, than in the winter, when the schoolroom holds them for the greater part of the day.

Consequently it is best to be prepared for a few of the most common emergencies, so that if you cannot quickly get a physician you will be able to relieve the little one's suffering and perhaps attend to the hurt yourself without medical aid.

Before starting for the vacation trip the thing to do is to provide yourself with a five-yard package of sterile gauze, one-half dozen sterile gauze bandages of assorted sizes, one pound of absorbent cotton, one bottle of corrosive sublimate tablets, 7-12 grains each, and one bottle of creolin. Other simple remedies you may take for this common in the summer, but these things you will need for accidents.

If a child has an open cut of any kind, dust stop the hemorrhage and, second, prevent infection or blood poisoning by keeping the wound clean. The hemorrhage you can usually check by holding a strip of sterile gauze over the wound and tying it very tight. In case an artery is severed and the blood can distinguish by the way the blood flows, it spurts out in little jets corresponding to the pulsating of the heart, you may be sure that an artery has been cut, but if it flows in a steady stream only a vein is injured. When an ar-

The English Baby's Layette

The British baby of aristocratic birth is a royally garbed little creature, for whom no linen is too fine and no embroidery too costly. For it the choicest of the ancestral laces are brought forth and put into daily use. So extensive is its layette that it takes up an amount of space that is simply preposterous, considering its tender years and its size. In addition to the dozens of under slips, each one sheer as a fine handkerchief, and its hemstitched, bordered linen nighties, garnished from throat to hem with needle worked tucks, there are innumerable robes, so long and voluminous that when the nurse walks with her tiny charge nestling in her arms a foam of semi-transparent whiteness covers her figure from bust to feet and she appears to be moving from behind a cloud. And when this robe happens to be of antique eyelet embroidery, of Irish linen worked over with a fine vine in hand embroidery, or of linen laced with real Valenciennes insertion or inset with medallions of old rose point and duchesse, the nurse is carrying a modest fortune in her arms.

In every well regulated British family is a christening robe of real lace, which sometimes is centuries old and of great value. But the baby is an almost equally magnificent spectacle when it takes its daily airing, for over a quilted, satin-lined long coat of heavily corded white silk is a cloak of lace made from a deep flounce of duchesse, Irish, Valenciennes, d'Alecon, point de Venise, rose point or Carick-ma-Cross, unless a deep bertha covers the sleeves and forms huge points that terminate near the hem of the little garment. Topping the cloak is invariably a cap made wholly of a matching mesh.

Dunlop Flour

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Gathered Here and There

Covers for trunk trays may be made of dotted swiss, china silk, cheesecloth, or any thin material. They are cut the size of the tray, allowing for a two-inch hem and an inch to tuck in. The hem is feather-stitched with cotton, matching the material to be used, which is preferably of some color that will not soil as easily as white. The owner's initials embroidered in the center of each cover add to its attractiveness and this touch of hand work is especially nice if the covers are intended for a gift.

A most convenient case for studs and pins may be made of flowered ribbon. Through the center cut-stitch a strip of cotton flannel and then turn up one end for a pocket, cut-stitching the hem. Fold the other end into a point and attach a narrow ribbon, leaving the ends free so that they can be tied around the case. The pocket is fastened to the back of the case with buttons and loops, and into it are placed studs, while the pins are stuck into the cotton flannel backing and the case is rolled and tied with ribbon, thus preventing the pins from becoming scratched.

Of very great convenience for the traveler is a case for shoes. Every woman who likes to keep her slippers and pumps free from scratches and in an immaculate condition will appreciate these shoe cases.

Figured flannellette, which is soft, is really the best material to use in making this case. A pocket rounded at the top, is made twelve inches long and ten inches wide at the top. A box plait, which increases in width toward the top, is laid in the pocket.

The back of the case is 14 inches long, this allowing for the flap, which fastens over the pocket with a snap and fastener. The back is five inches wide at the top and rounded at the toe.

Things to Know.

Very frequently when separating the whites from the yolks of eggs, the yolk becomes broken and falls into the white. Dip a cloth in warm water, wring it dry and tack the yolk with a corner. The yolk will adhere to the cloth and may easily be removed.

If you desire to store your linen for any length of time, never stretch it. It will crack and wear more quickly than if constantly in use.

Rinse the articles quite free from starch, dry and fold away in blue paper. This will prevent them from turning yellow.

Black Velvet.

The "sweet unreasonableness" of which the poet sings is exemplified by the French modiste, who invariably emphasizes tulle and lace and all filmy fabrics for the winter and then introduces velvet, and sometimes fur, on the summer costume. Fashion's vagaries are inconsistent but beautiful, as why object.

Black velvet is one of the prime favorites to-day. It is used for all trims of gowns and dresses, affording contrast and a rich, elegant appearance at the waist line. It is practical on account of its resistance to dust and hard wear, and its ability to harmonize with all colors is too great to ignore. Therefore the black velvet has an excuse for its popularity for being.

Most noticeable is the use of black velvet as facings for hats. The newest models now show entire undersurfaces of black velvet, or wide bands on wire applied with perfect smoothness to the edge of the brim.

In this manner the bright color of a hat can be toned down and dissociated so to speak, from the gown. The black also brings out the brightness of the eyes, the whiteness of the skin, and is generally becoming.

Black velvet ribbon is tied around the wrists, too. This takes us right back to grandmother's days and is a fashion good enough to be adopted generally.

Blue and White China Vogue

Along with the vogue of blue and white draperies and garden furniture has come the fashion for using blue and white china. For breakfast, the chateaux of country homes are using plates, cups, saucers, toast racks, porridge bowls, salt and pepper of German porcelain decorated in delicate designs and one easily carried outfit for serving breakfast in the bedroom consists of a round tray supporting a toast rack and flanked by depressions for milk, salt and pepper.

Afternoon tea sets of blue and white Japanese china are in dragon pattern. These sets, which may as well be used for breakfast as for luncheon, consist of plates in one size, cups and saucers, a sugar bowl, cream pitcher, teapot, chocolate pot, bowl for nuts or fruit and accompanying dishes, a pair of cake plates and a square-shaped, goodly sized clock to warn waiting guests of time's flight.

The Chuang Shengyao Shimbun of Japan, as the result of an investigation upon female labor in Tokyo, announce that Japanese women are, from various economic causes, being obliged to seek occupation in fields which have hitherto been the province of men. There are 191,000 women in Tokyo earning their living outside of their homes, 14,500 of the number being teachers and professional women. The equal suffrage sentiment is rapidly developing among the Japanese women.

In Massachusetts there are 379,775 women wage-earners, one-quarter of the entire female population of the commonwealth. Of this number, 91,000 are married women, three-quarters of whom are mothers with families averaging four children.

Suffragists in Bohemia are jubilant over the election of a woman to the Bohemian Parliament. Mrs. Kuneticka, the successful candidate, is an author of great distinction in her country, an accepted authority on political economy, and a large taxpayer in the city of Prague.

For the first time in the history of Budapest, Hungary, three women have been elected to the school board, the law prohibiting the election of women to such office having been repealed. Budapest is the city chosen for the next convention of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, June 15 to 20, 1913.

When Pressing.

If you desire to press a dress trimmed with buttons or a placket fastened with hooks and eyes, this suggestion may help you.

Place a heavy bath towel, folded several times, upon the ironing board. Arrange your dress, buttons down, and over it place a damp cloth.

Iron over this and you will not be able to detect marks or smooth, glossy spots caused by the buttons.

Treat the placket in the same manner.

A Pretty Hat.

A picturesque method of trimming a large leghorn picture hat is by using soft taffeta or lace frilling and equally soft ribbon.

Frilling can be bought by the yard, and that used on a hat should be two inches wide, killed to a very narrow banding.

Sew one row of the frilling to the under edge of the brim, using a tiny stitch underneath and a very tiny stitch to catch it to the straw.

These stitches may be concealed by using the slip stitch, passing the needle through the banding lengthwise and then running it in a slanting manner through the straw.

Make a small rosette of frilling by whipping it on to the edge of a circle of buckram, three inches in diameter, and then gathering another strip so it will form a circle and attach it to the centre of the buckram foundation.

To conceal your stitches here you can sew on some beads or a pretty crystal button directly in the centre.

A crownband of ribbon matching the frilling if it be of silk, or of some dainty light shade if you are using lace frilling, is folded around the crown and over the joining point the rosette is sewed. This may be placed on the side, but is usually more becoming when placed in the centre of the front, where it balances the hat better.

Rose pink frills or pale green are pretty on a cream-colored leghorn hat. Any of the delicate shades of violet or blue are good, but when choosing these shades take care that they suit your complexion or the good effect will be lost, as the frilling on the edge comes very close to the face.

Point a deep with a narrow lace edge is charming for this purpose, and the new shadow laces look extremely well.

This makes a simple, pretty picture hat, that can be worn with almost any gown.